## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EA-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 IO-10 USIE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

OIC-02 /106 W

----- 040550

O R 051753Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8234

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 0313

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION UN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: GATT

SUBJECT: VOTING IN THE GATT

REF: GENEVA 670 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL RECOMMENDS THAT, IN VIEW OF THE GENERAL US POSITION CONCERNING VOTING IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, THE US SHOULD RELUCTANTLY SUPPORT THE AUSTRALIANS, REQUEST THAT THE GATT COUNCIL HOLD A FORMAL COUNCIL VOTE ON AUSTRALIA'S EFFORT TO SET UP A MEAT GROUP.

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2. AS REFTEL POINTS OUT, GATT TRADITION HAS BEEN TO PROCEED

BY CONSENSUS. WE BELIEVE THAT THUS FAR THIS PRACTICE HAS SERVED US INTERESTS. IT IS A PARTICULARLY USEFUL PROCEDURE IN TERMS OF OUR RELATIONS WITH EC IN GATT WHERE MANY CPS SEEK TO AVOID TAKING POSITIONS AGAINST EC OR THE US AND THUS WE HAVE GENERALLY HAD AN EFFECTIVE VETO ON IMPORTANT ISSUES. IT SEEMS TO US THAT THE GATT SITUATION IS NOT LIKE THE UN WHERE THE CONSENSUS PRINCIPLE IS USED BY LDC MAJORITY TO PREVENT US FROM RECORDING ITS POSITION. ENCOURAGING VOTING, PARTICULARLY ON PROCEDURAL ISSUES, IS NOT LIKELY TO IMPROVE GATT EFFICIENCY OR ATMOSPHERE NOR REDOUND TO BENEFIT OF US IN LONG RUN.

3. THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT GENERAL US POSITION CONCERNING VOTING IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION NOT BE APPLIED WITHOUT CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL GATT HISTORY AND CURRENT SITUATION.GREENWALD

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 05 FEB 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: D750042-0375

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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 GENEVA 670 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 10 APR 2003

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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <14 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review

05 JÚL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: VOTING IN THE GATT TAGS: AORG, OCON, GATT To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006